

CHAPTER 10 - OBJECTIVES, POLICY, AND SCOPE OF OPERATION

MISSION. The principal mission of the Great Basin Coordination Center is the cost effective coordination of emergency response for all incidents within their areas and for the Great Basin. This is accomplished through planning, communications, situation monitoring, need projection, and expediting resource orders between Federal Land Management Agencies, State Agencies, and their cooperators.

- **TOTAL MOBILITY.** Positioning and utilizing established resources to meet anticipated and existing fire protection needs within the Great Basin regardless of geographic location or agency affiliation.
- **PRIORITIES.** Priorities can be adjusted to meet specific situations. Standard criteria for establishing priorities are found in the National Interagency Mobilization Guide.

When competition occurs, the Great Basin Coordination Centers, and if activated, a Great Basin Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Group will establish priorities for incidents and the assignment of critical resources. This may require advance notice of 24 to 48 hours prior to release of resources out of the geographic area.

Once the Great Basin situation is assessed, it then becomes imperative to advise all agencies and NICC. This two-way communication provides all units with much of the information they need to manage their resources in the most efficient manner.

SCOPE OF OPERATION.

- **GENERAL.** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.
 - **NATIONAL RESPONSE FRAMEWORK (NRF).** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.
 - **OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA).** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.
 - **MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS.** All Mutual Aid Agreements must be in writing. A copy of the agreement relating to adjacent units/areas outside the Great Basin and/or National resources will be furnished to the Great Basin Coordination Centers.

Mutual aid agreements have the primary purpose of providing Initial Attack (IA) and short-term logistical support between adjoining units and dispatch centers.

Mobilization will be within the legal authority of existing formalized parent agreements. Local formal agreements and MOU's are not necessary. However, cooperating units and centers must specifically identify operating procedures in local operating plans. Prior to the mobilization of IA resources, it is agreed that:

- An official resource request will be processed through dispatch channels for IA resources remaining on the incident beyond IA.
- No I.A. resource responding across geographic boundaries will be mobilized further than that adjoining center boundary.

- **GREAT BASIN COORDINATING GROUP.**

- **MISSION STATEMENT.** The Great Basin Coordinating Group (GBCG) is established to provide an interagency approach to wildland fire management in the Great Basin.
- **MEMBERSHIP.** The Coordinating Group will be composed of the lead fire manager or his/her representative from each of the following agencies:

- Forest Service (Intermountain Region)
- National Park Service (Pacific West Region, Intermountain Region)
- Bureau of Land Management (Idaho, Utah, Nevada and Arizona State Offices)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (Western Region)
- Fish and Wildlife Service (Region 1, Region 6, Region 8)
- State Agencies (Idaho, Utah, and Nevada)

Agency representatives are responsible for ensuring that respective agency policy and procedures are maintained and that agency administrators are informed. The members will coordinate recommendations for agency acceptance and implementation.

MOBILIZATION / DEMOBILIZATION. Great Basin Coordination Center will coordinate movement of all resources across recognized Great Basin unit dispatch boundaries and between each center. Unit dispatch centers at the local level may coordinate directly, via the neighborhood policy. Resources mobilized will be ordered through established ordering channels.

Currently the Great Basin has border agreements in place which allow for resource sharing/ordering between local dispatch offices across geographic area boundaries. Local dispatch centers adjacent to one another that have established agreements may engage in resource ordering across geographic area boundaries. The sending GACC must grant approval to the local center before any National resources are mobilized across geographic boundaries. Resources mobilized across geographic area boundaries cannot be reassigned without prior approval from sending GACC/local unit.

Safety is the highest priority. Units responding to requests are responsible for ensuring the resources dispatched meet the criteria specified in this guide, the National Interagency Mobilization Guide and/or the Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide (NWCG-310-1). All dispatchers, fire managers, and firefighters will follow policy, risk-analysis and management guidelines to minimize exposure to hazards.

- **WORK REST, LENGTH OF ASSIGNMENT, AND DAYS OFF.** A minimum fire assignment of 14 days, excluding travel, (can be negotiated to 21 days) can be expected by Great Basin personnel, unless prior arrangements are made between the sending and receiving units. Idaho Department of Lands has a standard 14 day commitment of all personnel and other resources, except team members. See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.
- **INCIDENT OPERATIONS DRIVING.** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.
- **INITIAL ATTACK DEFINITION.** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.
- **RESOURCE MOBILIZATION.** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.
 - **Night Mobilization.** In general, night mobilization (mobilization between the hours of 2200 and 0500) for other than initial attack incidents or first reinforcements is to be avoided other than with commercial carriers (for example, scheduled airlines, National contract aircraft, bus carriers, etc.). If incident objectives necessitate "night mobilization", then mode of travel and travel times will be negotiated with the ordering office to ensure personnel safety and rest requirements are met.
- **NATIONAL RESOURCES.** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.
- **NOTIFICATION OF COMMITMENT OF NATIONAL/GREAT BASIN RESOURCES.** Great Basin units will notify coordination centers of the commitment of National and Great Basin resources within their local unit. Notification will be done over the phone or by electronic mail within **15 minutes** of commitment.

- When National resources are committed internally to an incident or are no longer available for dispatch.
- When available again (resources on duty and available for dispatch).
- When location changes.
- When 50% of the smokejumpers at home bases are dispatched.
- **UNABLE TO FILL (UTF) PROCEDURE.** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.
- **STANDARD CUBES WEIGHT POLICY AND GEAR FOR ALL PERSONNEL (EXCLUDING SMOKEJUMPERS, RAPPELLERS AND HELICOPTER MANAGERS).** When mobilizing Type 1 and 2 teams within the Great Basin, there are some exceptions to the National 65 pound weight limit. Positions that are approved to carry additional weight are designated on internal Team Rosters. Also, See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.
- **STRIKE TEAMS/TASK FORCES.** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.
- **WILDLAND FIRE WEATHER FORECASTS.** Dissemination of Fire Weather Information. See National Interagency Mobilization Guide
 - Local dispatch centers/units will broadcast fire weather information reports twice a day (morning and afternoon) during fire season as determined by the dispatch center and units. Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings will be broadcast and disseminated at time of issuance.
 - Wildland fire agencies will post the fire weather reports at all stations including helibases and airtanker bases, etc.
 - Incident Commanders on all incidents will be responsible for all suppression and prescribed fire resources assigned to them being briefed on current and expected fire weather information prior to any line assignment.

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